

(c) whether Government are considering to provide some amount for Nandia village of Chadhaon Tehsil of Shimla district for street-light; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) As per Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) submitted by the Himachal Pradesh Government under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGVY) 99.45% villages are electrified. For intensive electrification including connections to BPL households Rs. 25 crore have been sanctioned for Chamba district and 3 projects for Solan, Sirmour and Una districts have been approved 'in-principle' at the cost of Rs. 73.49 crore.

(c) and (d) The village Nandia is already electrified. Under the scheme, there is no provision for street lighting. The street lighting in the village is to be provided by the Gram Panchayat.

Tin reserve in Bastar forests

†*68. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there are huge reserves of tin in Bastar forests;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the slag after smelting of tin is being purchased by smugglers as it contains radioactive elements like titanium, thorium and uranium and thereafter smuggled alongwith tin;

(c) whether it is also a fact that police and flying squads of the corporation had seized thirteen quintals of tin slag last year; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check smuggling of these items?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir. The tin ore reserves of Chhattisgarh State are found in Bastar and South Bastar (Dantewara) Districts. As per information given by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), the total reserves of tin ore in Bastar and South Bastar districts of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Chhattisgarh State are 32.63 million metric tonnes, containing tin metal of 14449 metric tonnes.

(b) and (c) The Chhattisgarh State Government has reported some cases of illegal storage and transportation of tin ore, metal and tin slag.

The flying squad of Directorate of Geology & Mining of State Government had seized 12.5 quintals of illegally produced tin slag on 10.11.2005.

(d) The Government of Chhattisgarh have informed that they have taken necessary steps to check illegal mining, storage or transportation of tin ore, tin metal and tin slag.

FDI in power sector

*69. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while 100 per cent FDI is allowed in power sector, the holding companies governing such projects cannot have more than 49 per cent FDI;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this anomaly has put on hold substantial FDI;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the projects affected by this; and

(e) the steps taken to remove this anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) 100% FDI is permissible on the automatic route for projects of power generation, transmission, distribution and trading. A holding Company or an investing Company in power sector can also have 100% FDI.

(c) to (e) The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) which approves the FDI in a holding Company or an investing Company has consistently taken the view that 100% FDI is permissible in investing companies/holding Companies in infrastructure/services sectors (except telecom) in general and Power Sector in particular. Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) has also issued a clarification *vide* Press Release dated 13.11.2006 in this regard, a copy of which is at Annexure.